

## Recreation Fee Demonstration Program

### Appropriations Language

This activity does not require appropriations language, since there is permanent authority through FY 2004 to collect the receipts and through FY 2007 to obligate.

### Authorizing Statutes

*The FY 1996 Omnibus Appropriations Act* (P.L. 104-134, section 315, 110 Stat. 1321-200), as amended by *The FY 1997 Omnibus Appropriations Act* (P.L. 104-208, section 319, 110 Stat. 3009), *The FY 1997 Supplemental Appropriations* (P.L. 105-18, section 5001), *The FY 1998 Interior Appropriations Act* (P.L. 105-83, section 320 and 321), *The FY 1999 Interior Appropriations Act* (105-277, section 316 and 327), *The FY 2000 Omnibus Appropriations Act* (P.L. 106-113, section 315), *The FY 2001 Department of Interior and Related Agencies Appropriation Act* (P.L. 106-291), and *The Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2002* (P.L. 107-63, section 312). The Acts provide that participating stations may deposit fees to a separate account in order to increase the quality of the visitor experience and enhance the protection of resources - for repair and maintenance, interpretation, signage, habitat or facility enhancement, resource preservation, operations, fee collection, maintenance and law enforcement related to public use.

Recreation Fee Demonstration Program	2002 Actual	2003 Estimate	Uncontrollable & Related Changes (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2004 Budget Request	Change From 2003 (+/-)
Entrance and User Fees \$(000) FTE	3,557 32	3,800 31	- -	- -	4,000 31	+200 -
<b>Total, Recreation Fee Demonstration Program</b> \$(000) FTE	<b>3,557</b> <b>32</b>	<b>3,800</b> <b>31</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,000</b> <b>31</b>	<b>+200</b> <b>-</b>

### 2004 Program Overview

The Recreation Fee Demonstration program was authorized by the *FY 1996 Omnibus Appropriations Act*, as amended, which directs that entrance and user fees be retained, with at least 80 percent returned to the specific site of collection to offset program costs and enhance visitor facilities and programs. Prior to this program, the Refuge Recreation Fee program (authorized by the *Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986*) consisted of 65 refuges collecting \$2,200,000 per year in entrance and recreation user fees. Participating refuges continuing in the original program receive 30 percent of the funds collected. The remaining 70 percent is deposited in the Migratory Bird Conservation Account for land acquisition. The Service initiated its Recreational Fee Demonstration Program with 42 approved sites in November 1996. The FY 2004 President's budget proposes to make the Recreation Fee Demonstration program permanent.

### 2002 Program Performance Accomplishments

By the end of FY 2002, there were 104 approved sites (103 National Wildlife Refuges and 1 National Fish Hatchery). In FY 2002, participating stations collected \$3,557,000 and obligated \$3,407,000 of their fee money on costs of collection, visitor services improvements, and deferred maintenance. Listed below

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are a few examples of refuge projects specific sites accomplished using fee demonstration funds:

- Modoc NWR, California, remodeled office space to provide a small visitor center/display area. This remodel converted existing office space into a small area for interpretive displays and improved contact with refuge personnel. The refuge also replaced a disabled access hunting blind. The old hay bale blind, which was used for disabled hunters, has been replaced with a new wooden blind with an access ramp. The refuge also purchased a banner and materials for Refuge Centennial outreach.
- Buenos Aires NWR, Arizona, upgraded furnishings and completed maintenance work in the Environmental Education Center and other structures; created slide transparencies for public presentations, hunt brochures, and honorariums for leading NWR Week guided walks; purchased items for volunteers and for Centennial-promoting events; and bought new format refuge entrance signs.
- Back Bay NWR, Virginia, added roof gutters and down spouts to the Asheville Bridge Creek Environmental Education Center; supported the refuge's Youth Conservation Corps projects; funded printing of the refuge brochure and other printing costs; and helped pay for janitorial/grounds maintenance work at refuge headquarters.
- Gavins Point National Fish Hatchery, South Dakota, printed brochures, upgraded lighting, improved landscaping, and purchased light-duty maintenance equipment.

### 2003 Performance Goal Estimates

Collection authority under the program will continue through FY 2004 with spending authority through FY 2007. Refuges not included in the program continue to generate revenue for refuge operations and land acquisition under the Emergency Wetlands Resource Act of 1986. The multi-agency Recreational Fee Demonstration Program also includes the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, and USDA Forest Service who continue to work together to produce legislation that will make this program permanent. The following table details the current fee programs at 103 National Wildlife Refuges and 1 National Fish Hatchery.

Station Name	State	Approved Activity
Anahauc NWR	TX	New entrance fee, modified hunt fee
Aransas NWR	TX	New entrance fee, provide refuge specific annual pass, modified hunt fee
Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee NWR	FL	Modified entrance fee, refuge specific annual pass
Back Bay NWR	VA	Modified entrance fee, refuge specific annual pass
Balcones Canyonlands NWR	TX	New hunter user fee
Bald Knob NWR	AR	New Quota deer hunt fee
Bayou Cocodrie NWR	LA	New deer hunt fee
Big Branch Marsh NWR	LA	Duck Hunt
Big Oaks NWR	IN	Entrance Fee
Black Bayou Lake NWR	LA	New boat launch fee
Blackwater NWR	MD	Modified entrance fee, refuge specific annual pass, big game hunt application fee

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<b>Station Name</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Approved Activity</b>
Bombay Hook NWR	DE	Modified entrance fee, refuge specific annual pass, modify deer hunt by increasing fee
Bond Swamp NWR	GA	New White-tailed Deer and Feral Hog Hunts
Bosque del Apache NWR	NM	Modified entrance fee, refuge specific annual pass, new fee schedule, guided refuge tours
Brazoria NWR	TX	New user fee for fishing area
Buenos Aires NWR	AZ	New entrance fee, provide refuge specific annual pass, new user fee for interpretive tours, group tours and rental fees for environmental education building
Cache River NWR	AR	New quota deer hunts
Cat Island NWR	LA	Deer hunts; turkey hunts
Chincoteague NWR	VA	Modified entrance fee, refuge specific annual pass, modify hunt fee. Off-road vehicle permits
Cibola NWR	AZ	Waterfowl Hunt
Columbia NWR	WA	New honor camping fee at Soda Lake, modified waterfowl hunt program by adding application fee and adding option of seasonal permit
Crab Orchard NWR	IL	New fees for all of the following: boat launch, campgrounds, fishing tournaments. Deposit concession revenue into demonstration project (deer hunt fee, fall 1996), modified entrance fee by instituting refuge annual vehicle sticker
Deep Fork NWR	OK	New deer hunt fee
Deer Flat NWR	ID	New fee for special youth activities building, honor boat launch/parking
Desert NWR Complex	NV	Entrance fees; Camping fees
DeSoto NWR	IA	Modified entrance fee, refuge specific annual pass
Dungeness NWR	WA	Modified entrance fee, refuge specific annual pass, new fee schedule
Eastern Neck NWR	MD	Modified deer hunt
Eastern Shore of Virginia	VA	Deer hunts; Conference facility fees
Edwin B. Forsythe NWR	NJ	Modified entrance fee, refuge specific annual pass
Elizabeth A. Morton NWR (Includes Long Island NWR Complex)	NY	New self-issue entrance fee
Eufaula NWR	GA	Modified hunt program by expanding waterfowl hunt program from one to three units and increase fee
Felsenthal NWR	AR	Modified hunt program by increasing number of hunt days, initiate special event fee
Fort Niobrara NWR	NE	New access fee for canoeing and tubing on the Niobrara river
Gavins Point NFH	SD	New entrance fee for aquarium only

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Station Name	State	Approved Activity
Great Bay NWR	NH	New deer hunt fee
Great Dismal Swamp NWR	VA	Modified big game hunt by adding bear and archery deer hunting
Great Swamp NWR	NJ	Modified big game hunt to expand hunting opportunities
Hatchie NWR	TN	Deer hunt
Hobe Sound NWR	FL	Modified entrance fee, refuge specific annual pass
Holla Bend NWR	AR	Modified entrance fee, refuge specific annual pass
Horicon NWR	WI	Multi-purpose room fee; deer hunts at Horicon NWR and Fox River NWR.
Humboldt Bay NWR	CA	Modified waterfowl hunt program by adding application fee and adding option of seasonal permit
Iroquois NWR	NY	Modified Waterfowl and Spring Turkey Hunts
J.N. "Ding" Darling NWR	FL	Modified entrance fee, refuge specific annual pass
Kenai NWR	AK	Modified Campground Fees - Price Reduction for Walk-in Sites
Kilauea Point NWR	HI	Establish honor entrance fee, establish annual resident refuge specific pass
Klamath Basin Complex	CA	New entrance fee, initiate photo blind fee, modified waterfowl hunt program by charging an application fee, add permit for pheasant hunt
Kodiak NWR	AK	Modified Cabin Fees - Peak Pricing Schedule
Laguna Atascosa NWR	TX	Modified entrance fee, refuge specific annual pass, quota archery & rifle deer and hog hunt
Lake Ophelia NWR Complex	LA	Modified fee programs, Hunting and Fishing
Lake Woodruff NWR	FL	Modified Deer and Feral Hog Hunting Seasons
Little River NWR	OK	Turkey hunt; Deer hunt
Lower Rio Grande Valley NWR	TX	New Archery Deer Hunt
Lower Suwanee NWR	FL	Deer Hunt
Mason Neck	VA	New entrance fee for Woodbridge unit
Mattamuskeet NWR	NC	Modified hunt program by increasing waterfowl hunt days and increasing fees; lodge usage fees
McFaddin NWR	TX	Waterfowl Hunt
Merritt Island NWR	FL	Waterfowl Hunt
Mid-Columbia NWR (Includes: Umatilla NWR)	OR	Modified waterfowl hunt program by adding application fee and adding option of seasonal permit
Midway Atoll NWR	MQ	New daily access fee
Mingo NWR	MO	Modified entrance fee, refuge specific annual pass
Minnesota Valley NWR	MN	New meeting room fee

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<b>Station Name</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Approved Activity</b>
Mississippi WMD (Includes: Louisiana WMD & North LA Refuges)	MS	New deer and small game hunting fees
Modoc NWR	CA	Modified waterfowl hunt program by adding application fee and adding option of seasonal permit
National Bison Range	MT	New fees for 2 auto tour routes, special event fees and teacher workshops
National Elk Refuge	WY	New fee for weekly elk hunt, as well as interpretive tours and special events.
Nisqually NWR	WA	Modified entrance fee, refuge specific annual pass, new fee schedule
Noxubee NWR	MS	Reinstatement of Waterfowl and Modified Deer Hunts
Okefenokee NWR	GA	Modified entrance fee, refuge specific annual pass, modify canoe trail user fee, raise fee
Ottawa NWR	OH	New deer hunt fee
Parker River NWR	MA	Modified entrance fee, refuge specific annual pass
Pee Dee NWR	NC	Modified hunt program by increasing number of days and expand hunt area
Piedmont NWR	GA	Modified hunt program by increasing number of days
Pocosin Lakes NWR	NC	Modified hunt program by increasing number of days
Prime Hook NWR	DE	New fees for fishing and canoeing access. Modified deer and waterfowl hunt fee
Rachel Carson NWR	ME	New hunt fees
Reelfoot NWRC (Reelfoot NWR, Lower Hatchie NWR, Chickasaw NWR)	TN	Turkey Hunts at all three refuges; Deer Hunt at Reelfoot NWR
Ridgefield NWR	WA	Modified waterfowl hunt program by adding application fee and adding option of seasonal permit
Sachuest Point NWR	RI	Evening vehicle access/Fishing permits
Sacramento NWR	CA	New honor entrance fee program, provide refuge specific annual pass and photo blind fee
San Andres NWR	NM	Big game hunt
San Bernard NWR	TX	Modified waterfowl hunt program
Saint Catherine Creek NWR	MS	New deer hunt fee
Saint Marks NWR	FL	Modified entrance fee, refuge specific annual pass, upland and big game quota hunt
Saint Vincent NWR	FL	Modified hunt program by increasing fee for Sambar deer hunt
Santa Ana NWR	TX	New Entrance Fee

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Station Name	State	Approved Activity
Seedskaadee NWR	WY	New fees for commercial fishing outfitters and guides, joint project with BLM
Sequoyah NWR	OK	New white-tailed deer hunt
Shiawassee NWR	MI	Modified deer hunt fee, formerly managed by the State
Sullys Hill National Game Preserve (Managed under Devils Lake WMD)	ND	New entrance fee and refuge specific annual pass; special event user fee
Supawna Meadows NWR	NJ	Modified White-tailed Deer Hunt
Target Rock NWR (Long Island NWR Complex)	NY	Reactivate entrance fee program
Tennessee NWR	TN	Modified hunt program by restructuring, initiated guided tour fee
Tensas River NWR	LA	New ATV permits fee, hunt fees
Trinity River NWR	TX	Waterfowl hunt
Turnbull NWR	WA	Modified entrance fee, refuge specific annual pass
Union Slough NWR	IA	New deer hunt fee
Upper Mississippi River Wildlife & Fish Refuge/Savannah District	IL	Modified waterfowl hunt
Walkill River NWR	NJ, NY	Deer hunt; Turkey hunt; Waterfowl hunt
Washita NWR	OK	Goose Hunt and Deer Hunt
White River NWR	AR	Modified hunt program by increasing number of days
Willapa NWR	WA	New honor boat launching and vehicle parking fees near headquarters. Modified waterfowl hunt program by adding application fee and adding option of seasonal permit
Yazoo NWR	MS	New entrance fee for the complex of refuges

**Program Performance Summary**

The Recreation Fee Demonstration Program is not associated with one particular goal; however, funding for the program is used for visitor services and maintenance needs, including resource protection, health and safety, and costs of collection on participating refuges. Therefore, the Recreation Fee Demonstration Program directly supports the Draft DOI Recreation Goal of improving access to appropriate recreation opportunities on DOI managed or partnered lands and waters, and ensuring a quality experience and enjoyment of natural and cultural resources on DOI managed or partnered lands and waters.

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Summary of Requirements by Object Class								
(Dollar amounts in thousands)								
Appropriation: Recreational Fee Demonstration Program								
Object Class	2003 Policy Est.		Uncont. and		Program		2004 Request	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
<b>Object Class</b>								
11 Personnel compensation								
11.1 Full-time permanent	-	628	-	-	-	31	-	659
11.3 Other than full-time permanent	-	481	-	-	-	22	-	503
11.5 Other personnel compensation	-	163	-	-	-	7	-	170
Total Personnel Compensation	31	1,272	-	-	-	60	31	1,332
<b>Other Objects</b>								
12.1 Civilian personnel benefits	-	291	-	-	-	13	-	304
21.0 Travel & transportation of people	-	110	-	-	-	1	-	111
22.0 Transportation of things	-	18	-	-	-	-	-	18
23.3 Communications, utilities & misc	-	155	-	-	-	3	-	158
24.0 Printing and reproduction	-	319	-	-	-	6	-	325
25.2 Other Services	-	294	-	-	-	-1	-	293
25.3 Purchase of goods and services from Gov't accounts	-	155	-	-	-	-3	-	152
25.4 Operation and maint. of facilities	-	128	-	-	-	2	-	130
25.5 Research and development contracts	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
25.6 Medical care	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
25.7 Operation and maint. of equipment	-	12	-	-	-	-3	-	9
25.8 Subsistence & support of persons	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	4
26.0 Supplies and materials	-	727	-	-	-	-84	-	843
31.0 Equipment	-	254	-	-	-	5	-	259
32.0 Land and structures	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	30
41.1 Local, state, and foreign cooperative agreements	-	27	-	-	-	1	-	28
42.1 Insurance claims	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Requirements	31	3,800	-	-	-	-	31	4,000

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<b>Unavailable Collections (in thousands of dollars)</b>			
<b>Identification code 14-5252-0-2-303</b>	<b>2002 Actual</b>	<b>2003 Estimate</b>	<b>2004 Estimate</b>
01.99 Balance, start of year	0	0	0
<b><u>Receipts:</u></b>			
02.02 Receipts: Recreational Fee Demonstration Program	3,557	3,800	4,000
04.00 Total: Balances and collections	3,557	3,800	4,000
05.01 Appropriation, Fish and Wildlife Service, Recreational Fee Demonstration Program (-)	-3,557	-3,800	-4,000
07.00 Balance, end of year	0	0	0

<b>Program and Financing (in thousands of dollars)</b>			
<b>Identification code 14-5252-0-2-303</b>	<b>2002 Actual</b>	<b>2003 Estimate</b>	<b>2004 Estimate</b>
<b><u>Obligations by Program Activity:</u></b>			
00.01 Recreational Fee Demonstration Program	3,407	3,483	3,575
10.00 Total obligations	3,407	3,483	3,575

<b><u>Budgetary Resources Available for Obligation:</u></b>			
21.40 Unobligated balance available, start of year	3,516	3,795	4,112
22.00 New Budget authority (gross)	3,557	3,800	4,000
22.10 Resources available from recoveries of prior year obligations	129	0	0
23.90 Total budgetary resources available for obligation	7,202	7,595	8,112
23.95 New obligations (-)	-3,407	-3,483	-3,575
24.40 Unobligated balance available, end of year	3,795	4,112	4,537

<b><u>New Budget Authority (gross), Detail:</u></b>			
Permanent authority: Appropriations:			
60.00 Appropriation (special fund, indefinite)	3,557	3,800	4,000
70.00 Total new B.A. (gross)	3,557	3,800	4,000

<b><u>Change in Unpaid Obligations:</u></b>			
Unpaid obligations, start of year:			
72.40 Obligated balance, start of year	791	715	447
73.10 New obligations	3,407	3,483	3,575
73.20 Total outlays, gross (-)	-3,354	-3,751	-3,960
73.45 Adjustments in unexpired accounts (-)	-129	0	0
Unpaid obligations, end of year:			
74.40 Obligated balance, end of year	715	447	62



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<b><u>Outlays, (gross) Detail:</u></b>			
86.97 Outlays from new permanent authority	2,846	3,040	3,200
86.98 Outlays from permanent balances	508	711	760
87.00 Total outlays (gross)	3,354	3,751	3,960
<b><u>Net Budget Authority and Outlays</u></b>			
89.00 Budget authority	3,557	3,800	4,000
90.00 Outlays	3,354	3,751	3,960

<b>Object classification (in thousands of dollars)</b>			
<b>Identification code 14-5252-0-2-303</b>	<b>2002 Actual</b>	<b>2003 Estimate</b>	<b>2004 Estimate</b>
<b><u>Direct Obligations:</u></b>			
11.1 Full-time permanent	599	628	659
11.3 Other than full-time permanent	460	481	503
11.5 Other personnel compensation	156	163	170
11.8 Special personnel services payments	13		
11.9 Total personnel compensation	1,228	1,272	1,332
12.1 Civilian personnel benefits	278	291	304
21.0 Travel and transportation of persons	109	110	111
22.0 Transportation of things	18	18	18
23.3 Communications, utilities, and misc. charges	152	155	158
24.0 Printing and reproduction	313	319	325
25.2 Other services	295	294	293
25.3 Purchases of goods and services from Gov't Accounts	158	155	152
25.4 Operation and maintenance of facilities	126	128	130
25.5 Research and development contracts	1	1	1
25.6 Medical care	3	3	3
25.7 Operation and maintenance of equipment	15	12	9
25.8 Subsistence and support of persons	4	4	4
26.0 Supplies and materials	402	410	418
31.0 Equipment	249	254	259
32.0 Land and structures	30	30	30
41.1 Local, state, and foreign cooperative agreements	26	27	28
42.1 Insurance claims	0	0	0
99.9 Total obligations	3,407	3,483	3,575

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<b>Object classification (in thousands of dollars)</b>			
<b>Identification code 14-5252-0-2-303</b>	<b>2002 Actual</b>	<b>2003 Estimate</b>	<b>2004 Estimate</b>
<b>Personnel Summary</b>			
<b><u>Direct:</u></b>			
Total compensable workyears:			
1001 Full-time equivalent employment	32	31	31
Average salary per FTE	38,375	41,032	42,968